

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date indicated below.

Angela M. Weinstock

Date February 12, 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

SU et al.

Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Application No.: 09/761,792

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: January 17, 2001

Docket No.: 1067.037

Customer No. 023907

For:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REDUCING THE PARACHUTING

OF A PROBE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97(b)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are submitted herewith along with Form PTO-1449. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

2 P. Walker Y-26-M This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application. If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 14-1080.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew C. Loppnov

Registration No. 45,314

Dated: February 12, 2001

Nilles & Nilles, S.C. 777 E. Wisconsin Avenue Suite 2000 Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 276-0977

AMWG \Data\CLIENT\1067\037\IDSLetter doc